REMARKS

The Office Action dated October 3, 2007 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-25 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-25 stand rejected.

Applicant notes the objections to the drawings. A corrected Figure 4 has been submitted herewith.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant requests that the objections to the drawings be withdrawn.

The objection to the specification due to informalities is respectfully traversed.

Initially, the Examiner objects to the abstract due to the abstract being numbered. Applicant has amended the abstract in accordance with MPEP § 608.01 I (6).

The Examiner also objects to the specification due to the use of trademarks such as Amazon.com®, Netflix.com®, and Barnes & Noble®. Applicant has amended the specification to clearly specify the use of registered trademarks as well as the owner of each registered trademark. Applicant has further amended the specification to clearly specify the use of commercially available products for which a live trademark does exist, as well as the owner or provider of such products.

Additionally, Applicant has amended the specification at paragraphs [0010] and [0021] to remove the hyperlinks and/or browser-executable code, in accordance with MPEP § 608.01.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant requests that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-3, 5, 8, 10-13, 14, 19, 20, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 7,257,585 to Stevenson, et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Stevenson") is respectfully traversed.

Stevenson describes a system for augmenting data from a source data file (30) with data from a reference database (39), thereby generating an augmented data file (50). The source data file (30) resides on a server on a network (33). A handler (36) retrieves the source data file (30) for use by the system. A locator (42) examines the retrieved source data file (30) for comparison to the reference database (39) according to an analyzing strategy. The locator (42) compares structured data from the source data file (30) and reference data from the reference database (39), and provides the reference data to an analyzer (45). The analyzer (45) creates associations between each compared structured datum and a uniform resource locator (URL) address within each corresponding reference datum found by the locator (42). A generator (48) then embeds each URL address in the source data file (30), resulting in the augmented data file (50).

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's assertion that Stevenson describes the invention described in Claim 1. Specifically, Stevenson does not describe or suggest selecting an object from an electronic document displayed on a client system, displaying a function menu on a client system to prompt a user to select a desired function to be applied to the selected object, and communicating with a target web server to complete the processing of the selected object. Rather, the system described by Stevenson compares all data within a source data file with the data contained in a reference database, without user intervention, and embeds a URL address into the source data file for each piece of data within the source data file having a corresponding reference datum in the reference database.

In contrast to the Examiner's assertion at page 6, Stevenson does not describe displaying a function menu on the client system to prompt a user to select a desired function. The Examiner attempts to support this assertion by citing element 133 in Figure 7 and, in the specification, column 5, lines 21-22 and lines 51-53. However, the cited sections within the specification do not support this assertion. Rather, at column 5, lines 21-22 Stevenson describes a database table that includes a description of the file found at the URL that is being

associated with a data element in the source data file. Similarly, at column 5, lines 51-53 Stevenson describes a name that is displayed to the user after the augmented data file has been generated, and when the user hovers a pointer over a URL embedded in the augmented data file. It should be clear to one of ordinary skill in the art that neither the description of the contents of the file found at the URL nor the name of the URL is equivalent or usable in replacement of a function menu as recited in the pending claims.

Claim 1 recites a method for retrieving information using a server system coupled to a centralized database and at least one client system. The method includes "selecting an object from an electronic document displayed on a client system; displaying a function menu on the client system to prompt a user to select a desired function; transmitting the selected object and the selected function from the client system to the server system; processing the selected object by applying the selected function at the server system; communicating with a target web server to complete the processing of the selected object; and transmitting at least one of a resulting web page and other output to the client system."

Stevenson does not describe or suggest a method for retrieving information, as recited in Claim 1. More specifically, Stevenson does not describe or suggest a method that includes selecting an object from an electronic document displayed on a client system, displaying a function menu on the client system to prompt a user to select a desired function to be applied to the selected object, and communicating with a target web server to complete processing of the selected object. Rather, Stevenson describes a system that analyzes a source data file and transforms various elements of the source data file, such as text strings and/or images, into URL addresses.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Stevenson.

Claims 2, 3, 5, and 8 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2, 3, 5, and 8 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 2, 3, 5, and 8 likewise are patentable over Stevenson.

Claim 10 recites a network based system for retrieving information, wherein the system includes "a client system comprising a user interface and a browser; a centralized database for storing information; and a server system configured to be coupled to said client system and said database, said server system further configured to: enable a user to select an object from an electronic document displayed on said user interface; display a function menu on said user interface to prompt a user to select a desired function; receive the selected object and the selected function from said client system; process the selected object by applying the selected function; communicate with a target web server to complete the processing of the selected object; and transmit at least one of a resulting web page and other output to said client system."

Stevenson does not describe or suggest a network based system for retrieving information, as recited in Claim 10. More specifically, Stevenson does not describe or suggest a server system that is configured to enable a user to select an object from an electronic document displayed on a user interface, display a function menu on the user interface to prompt the user to select a desired function to be applied to the selected object, and process the selected object by applying the selected function and by communicating with a target web server. Rather, Stevenson describes a system that analyzes a source data file and transforms various elements of the source data file, such as text strings and/or images, into URL addresses.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 10 is submitted to be patentable over Stevenson.

Claims 11-14 depend from independent Claim 10. When the recitations of Claims 11-14 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 10, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 11-14 likewise are patentable over Stevenson.

Claim 19 recites a computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for retrieving information using a server system coupled to a client system and a database, the client system including a user interface. The program includes a code segment that "prompts a user to select an object from an electronic document displayed on the user interface and

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then displays a function menu on the user interface to prompt the user to select a desired function; transmits the selected object and the selected function from the client system to the server system; processes the selected object by applying the selected function at the server system; communicates with a target web server to complete the processing of the selected object; and transmits at least one of a resulting web page and other output to the client system."

Stevenson does not describe or suggest a computer program for retrieving information, as recited in Claim 19. More specifically, Stevenson does not describe or suggest a code segment of the program that prompts a user to select an object from an electronic document displayed on a user interface, displays a function menu on the user interface to prompt the user to select a desired function to be applied to the selected object, and processes the selected object by applying the selected function at the server system and by communicating with a target web server. Rather, Stevenson describes a system that analyzes a source data file and transforms various elements of the source data file, such as text strings and/or images, into URL addresses.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 19 is submitted to be patentable over Stevenson.

Claims 20 and 22 depend from independent Claim 19. When the recitations of Claims 20 and 22 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 19, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 20 and 22 likewise are patentable over Stevenson.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 102 rejection of Claims 1-3, 5, 8, 10-13, 14, 19, 20, and 22 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 4, 15, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stevenson in view of U.S. Patent 6,735,347 to Bates, et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Bates") is respectfully traversed.

Stevenson is described above. Bates describes a method and system (200) for copying images from a source document to a destination document in a computer user

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interface (300). A user is given the option to cut or copy information from an image within the source document and to extract the textual information from the cut or copied image, enabling the extracted text to be pasted into the destination document as text. The textual information is extracted from the cut or copied image using optical character recognition (OCR) techniques. When instructed by the user, the user interface (300) copies the image, uses OCR to locate textual information within the image, and then pastes the located textual information into the destination document.

Claim 4 depends from independent Claim 1, which is recited above.

As discussed above, Stevenson does not describe or suggest a method for retrieving information as recited in Claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that Bates does not make up for the deficiencies of Stevenson. Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1 is patentable over Stevenson in view of Bates.

When the recitations of Claim 4 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicant submits that dependent Claim 4 likewise is patentable over Stevenson in view of Bates.

Claim 15 depends from independent Claim 10, which is recited above.

As discussed above, Stevenson does not describe or suggest a network based system for retrieving information as recited in Claim 10. Applicant respectfully submits that Bates does not make up for the deficiencies of Stevenson. Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 10 is submitted to be patentable over Stevenson in view of Bates.

When the recitations of Claim 15 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 10, Applicant submits that dependent Claim 15 likewise is patentable over Stevenson in view of Bates.

Claim 21 depends from independent Claim 19, which is recited above.

As discussed above, Stevenson does not describe or suggest a computer program for retrieving information as recited in Claim 19. Applicant respectfully submits that Bates does

not make up for the deficiencies of Stevenson. Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 19 is submitted to be patentable over Stevenson in view of Bates.

When the recitations of Claim 21 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 19, Applicant submits that dependent Claim 21 likewise is patentable over Stevenson in view of Bates.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 103 rejection of Claims 4, 15, and 21 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 6, 7, 9, 16-18, and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stevenson in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0188603 to Baird, et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Baird") is respectfully traversed.

Stevenson is described above. Baird describes a method for automating a search over the Internet. A user selects (100) data such as a text string from within an application. The selected data is used by a search engine to perform (104) an Internet search, without requiring the user to leave the application. When the search is complete, the search results are returned (106) to the user within the application. The user may also choose a particular search engine to use as a default search engine. Notably, Baird does not describe or suggest displaying a function menu on a client system to prompt a user to select a desired function to be applied to the selected object. Rather, Baird only describes performing an Internet search using selected data within an application.

Claims 6, 7, and 9 depend from independent Claim 1, which is recited above.

As discussed above, Stevenson does not describe or suggest a method for retrieving information as recited in Claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that Baird does not make up for the deficiencies of Stevenson. Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1 is patentable over Stevenson in view of Baird.

When the recitations of Claims 6, 7, and 9 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 6, 7, and 9 likewise are patentable over Stevenson in view of Baird.

Claims 16-18 depend from independent Claim 10, which is recited above.

As discussed above, Stevenson does not describe or suggest a network based system for retrieving information as recited in Claim 10. Applicant respectfully submits that Baird does not make up for the deficiencies of Stevenson. Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 10 is submitted to be patentable over Stevenson in view of Baird.

When the recitations of Claims 16-18 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 10, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 16-18 likewise are patentable over Stevenson in view of Baird.

Claims 23-25 depend from independent Claim 19, which is recited above.

As discussed above, Stevenson does not describe or suggest a computer program for retrieving information as recited in Claim 19. Applicant respectfully submits that Baird does not make up for the deficiencies of Stevenson. Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 19 is submitted to be patentable over Stevenson in view of Baird.
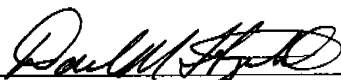
When the recitations of Claims 23-25 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 19, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 23-25 likewise are patentable over Stevenson in view of Baird.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 103 rejection of Claims 6, 7, 9, 16-18, and 23-25 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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